

MARVEL
630 .com

WELLS
BACHALO
TOWNSEND
MENDOZA

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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D

PART ONE

BUGLE GIRL



by
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INNOVATIONS AT PHELPCORP –

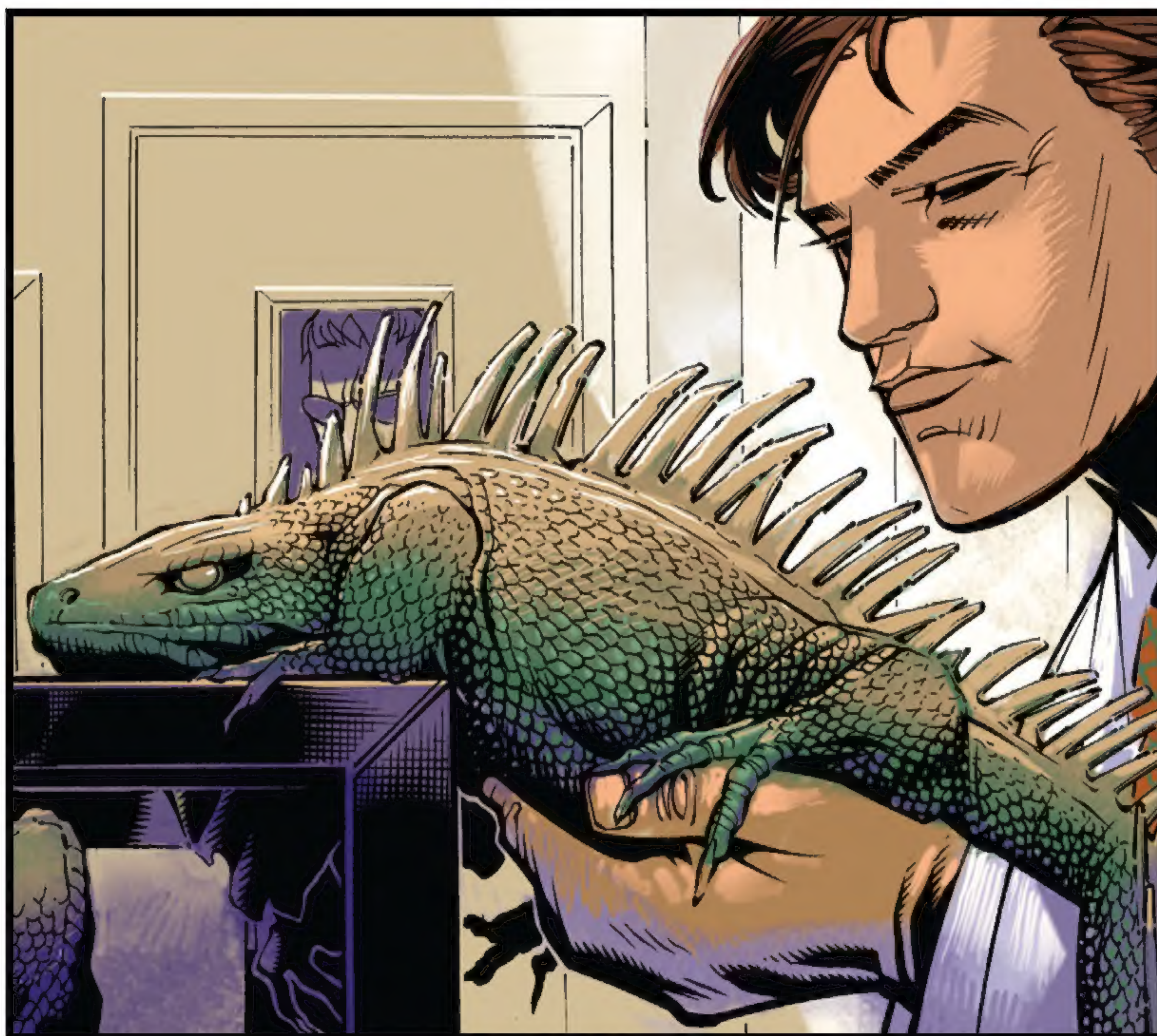
Phelcorp executive Brian King continues to impress stockholders. His decisions have led to an increase in the company's scientific research departments. Under King's guidance, Phelcorp executives authorized the implementation of a new program studying lizards. [more...](#)



IS HOPE LOST? – It is with a heavy heart that Bugle Girl by Betty Brant reports that the NYPD has given up on the rescue efforts in the search for Mattie Franklin and Cassandra Webb. They are now pursuing a “search and recovery” operation. [more...](#)



AUNT MAY – ANTI-MAY? – May Parker, local hero and beloved staple of Martin Li's F.E.A.S.T. center, has come under fire from F.E.A.S.T. regulars for “abusive language and behavior”... [more...](#)



After a wartime injury, Dr. Curt Connors, once a talented and gifted surgeon, had to endure the amputation of his right arm. Devoting himself to the study of reptilian DNA, Connors attempted to create a serum that would grant his body the power to regenerate lost limbs. The result was an effect the scientist had not foreseen, as he was transformed into a reptilian-humanoid monster known as **THE LIZARD**. Peter Parker, the Amazing Spider-Man, intervened, stopping the creature and restoring Connors to his normal self.

Things just don't seem to be going well for Peter Parker now, though. After facing down foe after foe, Spider-Man has been drained emotionally and physically. Doctor Octopus, Electro, Mysterio, and even the Rhino have all resurfaced, challenging the web-slinger at every chance they get. Are these bouts with old enemies coincidence, or is someone orchestrating Spidey's terrible luck from behind the scenes?

Adding insult to (serious) injury, Peter's life outside of his costume is proving to be difficult, as well. His uncertainties about dating Carlie Cooper of the NYPD and a casual romance with Felicia Hardy, the **BLACK CAT**, are only making his personal life even more complicated.

Dealing with unemployment, an aunt who has her hands full with a new marriage, and his own exhaustion, Peter Parker has slowly started to lose steam.



I ALREADY KNEW
WHAT I WAS GOING
TO SAY, IS WHAT'S
TERRIBLE ABOUT IT.

WE'D TAKE OUT THE GUYS IN THE
BACK AND WHEN WE GOT TO THE
DROP POINT SOMEONE WOULD
NOTICE THEY WERE GONE, AND
I'D JUMP OUT AND SAY...

"THEY MUST
HAVE FALLEN OFF THE
BACK OF A TRUCK."

SEE BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT
THESE MOB TYPES ALWAYS SAY
ABOUT THE JUNK THEY STEAL
FROM TRUCKS AND--

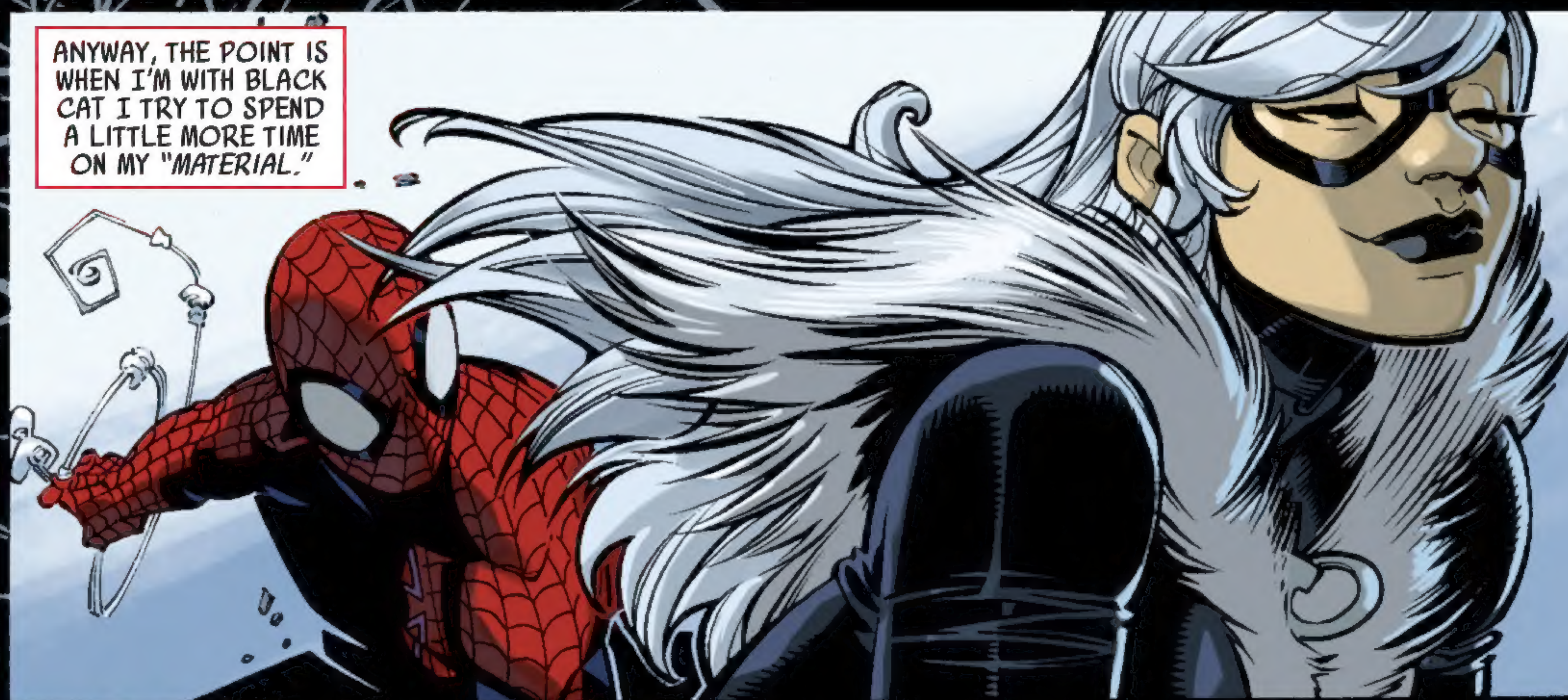
--AND--

--AND--

OKAY, NOT THE BEST LINE,
BUT IT'S ORGANIZED CRIME
SPECIFIC AND I'M PRETTY
SURE I WOULD HAVE
NAILED THE DELIVERY.

PROBABLY
WOULD HAVE
REALLY STRESSED
"TRUCK".

ANYWAY, THE POINT IS
WHEN I'M WITH BLACK
CAT I TRY TO SPEND
A LITTLE MORE TIME
ON MY "MATERIAL."





SHOULD I BE
SPENDING THAT TIME
ADJUSTING FOR
THE CHAOS HER **BAD**
LUCK POWERS CAUSE?



PROBABLY.

I MEAN, I'M NOT
MAD AT HER POWERS
FOR KICKING IN...
HEY, THAT'S THEIR **RIGHT**
IN THIS SITUATION.

HE SAW
ME.

THANKS.



BUT SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO
TELL **WHO** THE UNLUCKY ONE IS.



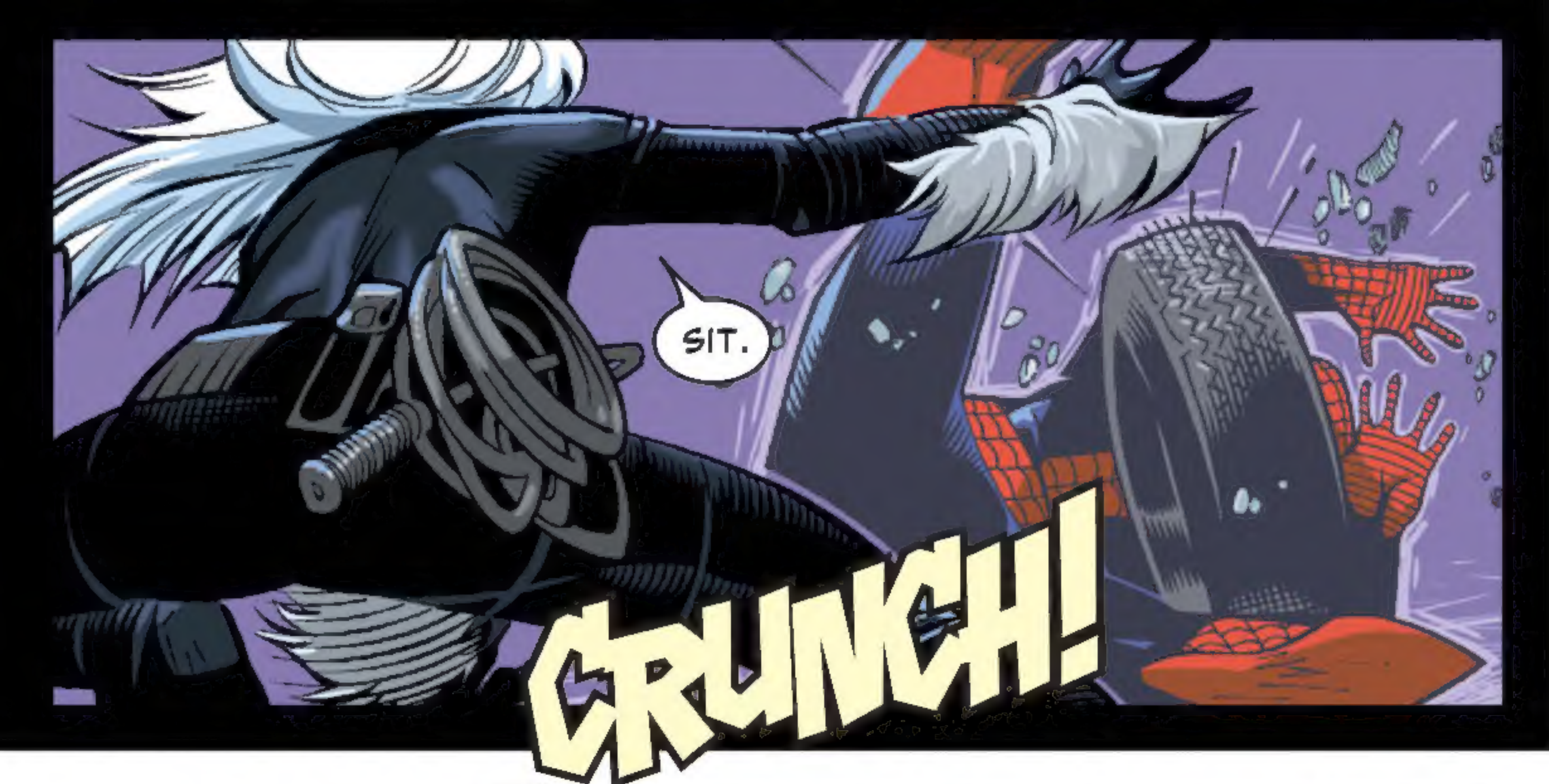
AAAAAAAH!

I HEAR
YOU,
BUDDY.

ONE THING'S
FOR SURE,
THOUGH...

SHE'S STEPPED
ALL OVER MY
PUNCH LINE.





SIT.

CRUNCH!



YOU TOO.

LOOKS LIKE THESE TWO FELL OFF THE BACK OF A TRUCK...

WHAT?

NOTHING.

SCORE ANOTHER ROUND FOR J. JONAH JAMESON'S NEW YORK...

WHICH IS GREAT FOR YOU, CAT... **YOUR** SECRET IDENTITY STILL WORKS FOR THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.



...WHAT DO YOU SAY WE CELEBRATE WITH A LITTLE "PRIVATE TIME?"

WELL, HAD I BEEN IN THE MOOD, HEARING THE WORDS "J. JONAH JAMESON" COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTH WOULD HAVE DEFINITELY KILLED IT...

GURGLE

KAK

WELL, THAT AND THE SOUNDS THIS GUY IS MAKING.



YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO GET RID OF ME, ARE YOU, SPIDER?

NO, SERIOUSLY, THESE GUYS NEED MEDICAL ATTENTION.

!GURGLE!

YOU CAN'T HEAR THAT?

YOU SURE YOU DON'T HAVE A HOT DATE OR SOMETHING?



WHAT?! OF COURSE NOT...



"OF COURSE NOT"?

WELL, I MEAN...I WOULDN'T DO THAT, WHILE YOU AND I ARE...YOU KNOW.

WELL, I'M AN ADULT, SO, YES, I DO KNOW. AND WE BOTH KNOW THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR ISN'T "DATING," RIGHT?



YEAH, I KNOW. WE'RE BOTH JUST "HAVING FUN".

STILL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'D EVER..."HAVE FUN"...WITH ANYONE ELSE WHILE "HAVING FUN" WITH YOU.



YOU'RE CUTE, SPIDER, BUT THIS IS BIG BOY TALK. WE'RE NOT A COUPLE.



OUCH.

IF SOMETHING BETTER COMES ALONG, DON'T LET US GET IN THE WAY.

OUCH.

BELIEVE ME...I DON'T.

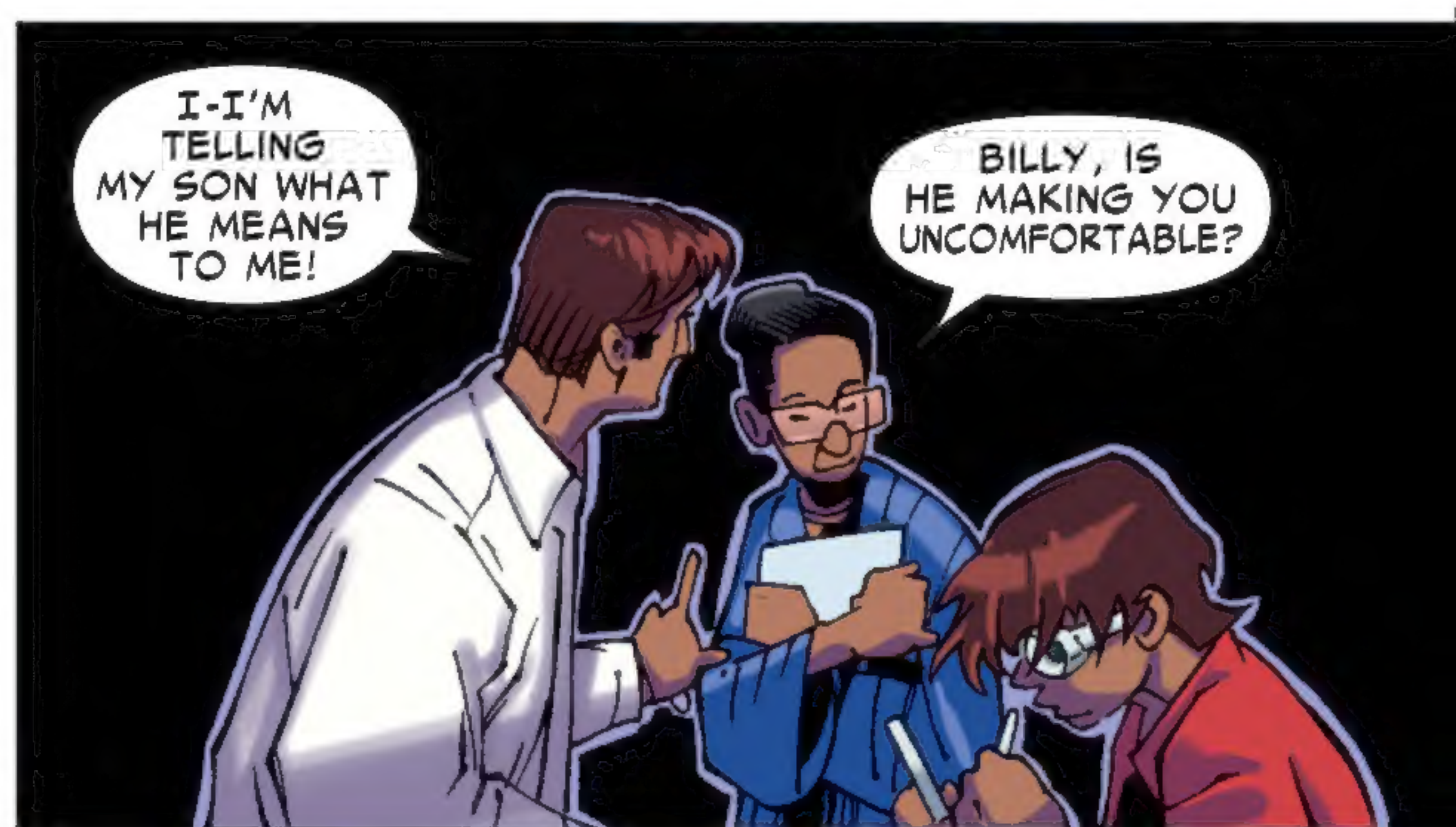


AAAAAAND OUCH.

...IT HURTS...

YEP.

"IT'S OKAY TO SMILE, YOU KNOW..."

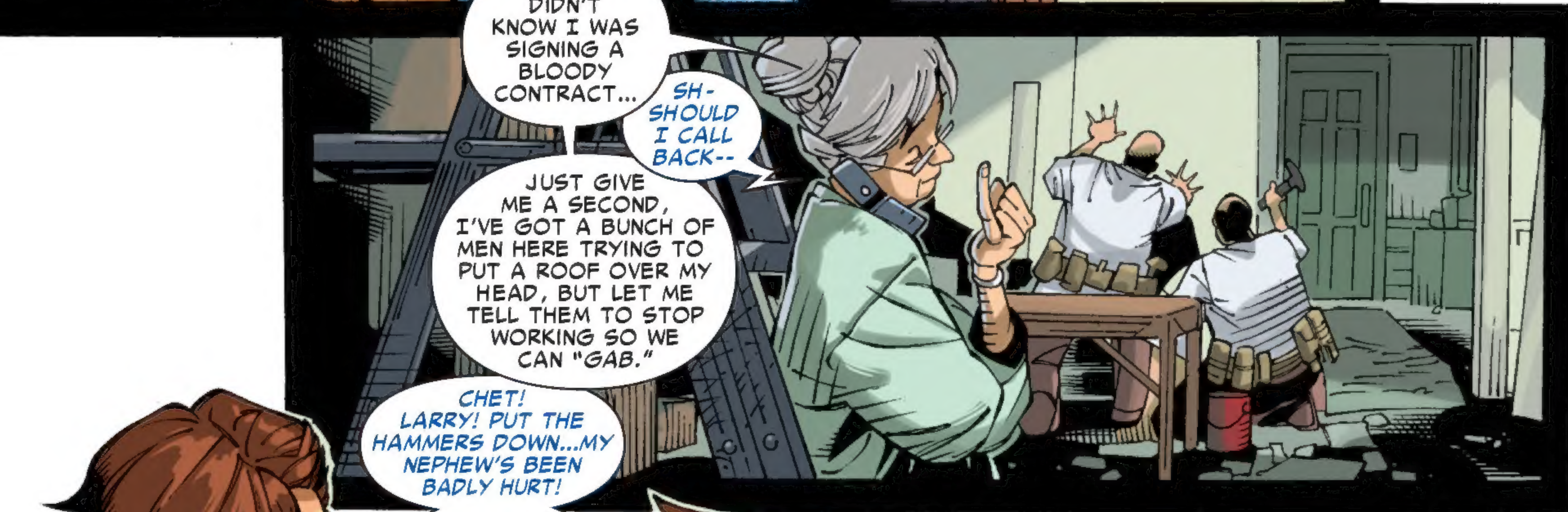




HEY, AUNT MAY. IT'S ME, PETE. I'M HAVING SOME GIRL TROUBLE.

OH, GOD...

YEAH, UH...I'M REALLY HURTING HERE AND YOU SAID I COULD ALWAYS CALL IF---



YEAH. DIDN'T KNOW I WAS SIGNING A BLOODY CONTRACT...

SH-SHOULD I CALL BACK--

JUST GIVE ME A SECOND, I'VE GOT A BUNCH OF MEN HERE TRYING TO PUT A ROOF OVER MY HEAD, BUT LET ME TELL THEM TO STOP WORKING SO WE CAN "GAB."

CHET! LARRY! PUT THE HAMMERS DOWN...MY NEPHEW'S BEEN BADLY HURT!

NO, NOT PHYSICALLY! JUST HIS FEELINGS!



NO, NOT MY "NIECE," MY "NEPHEW."



I-IS THIS A BAD TIME?

LET'S SEE... I'M A NEWLYWED WITH MAYBE FIVE YEARS LEFT ON THIS EARTH WHO'S PRACTICALLY HOMELESS BECAUSE MY HOUSE HAS BEEN GUTTED BY FLAMES. BUT ENOUGH ABOUT ME, PETER, WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?

I'LL CALL BACK...

PROMISE?

DEEP



I KNOW THAT FACE...



SOME GIRL PLAYING WITH YOUR HEART ON THE OTHER LINE?

NO-- I WAS TALKING TO MY AUNT.

EH, MY STATEMENT COULD STILL BE ACCURATE.

LISTEN, HARRY, THAT'S A WHOLE OTHER THING--

--WHICH MIGHT INVOLVE HORMONES--

CAN WE CHANGE THE SUBJECT?

SURE THING, BUDDY. YOU CALLED ME, WE CAN TALK ABOUT WHATEVER YOU WANT.



UH, I CALLED MJ AND YOU ANSWERED THE PHONE.

WHICH IS ALWAYS WEIRD.



HEY, ME AND MJ ARE ROOMMATES NOW...WE'RE A TEAM.

TWO PEAS IN A POD.



OH--I MEAN... NOT LIKE THAT OF COURSE.

...COME ON.

LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT. THIS IS YOUR DAY, PARKER... WHAT'S UP?



I'VE BEEN, "HAVING FUN" WITH THIS GIRL--

--HER WORDS, NOT MINE--

AND SHE'S TOLD ME IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT IT'S NOT GOING TO GO FARTHER. AND I HONESTLY THINK THE ONLY REASON I HAVEN'T ASKED CARLIE, ON A "DATE" DATE IS THIS GIRL, AND--

GO ON...

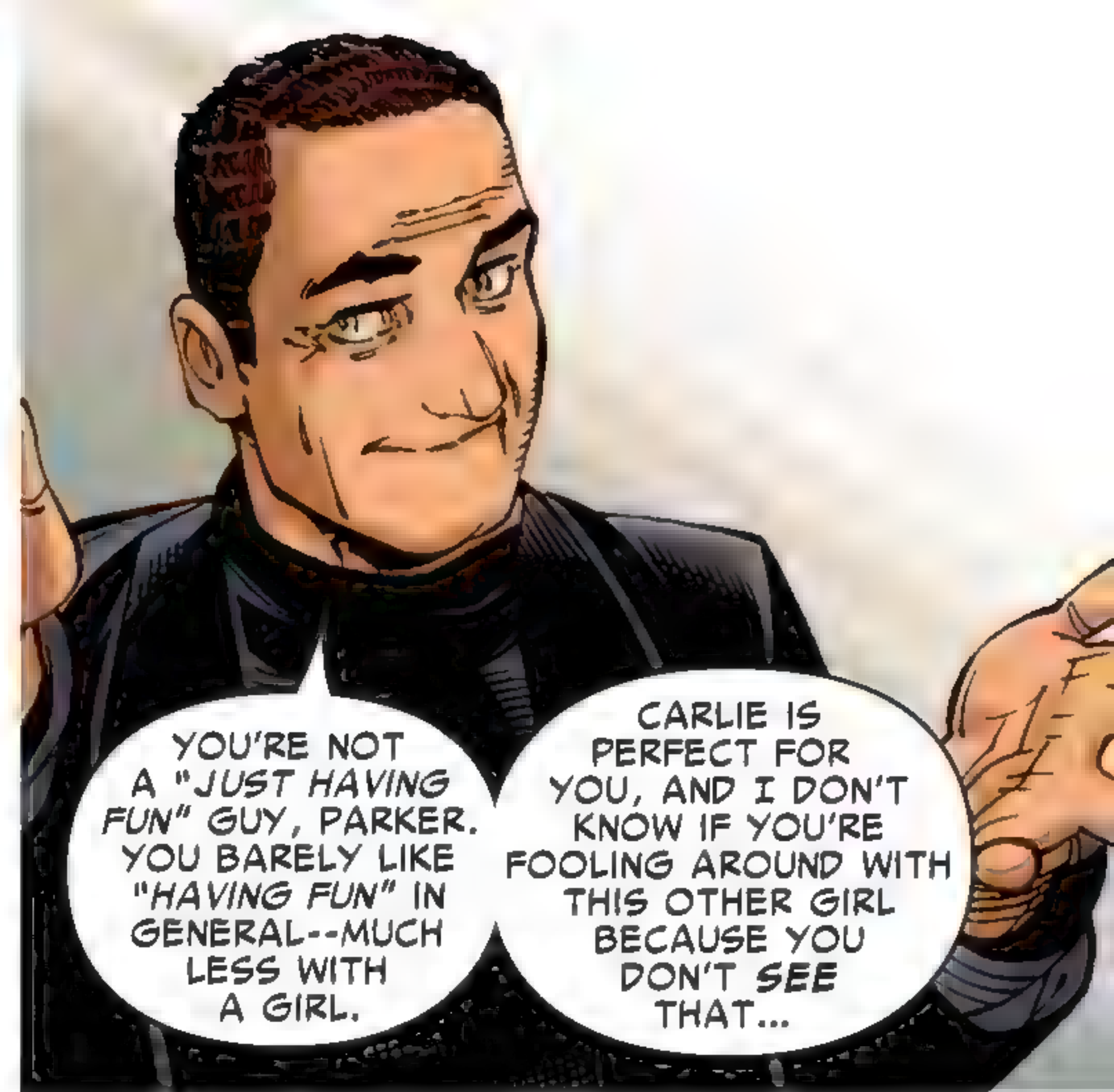


WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY PHONE?

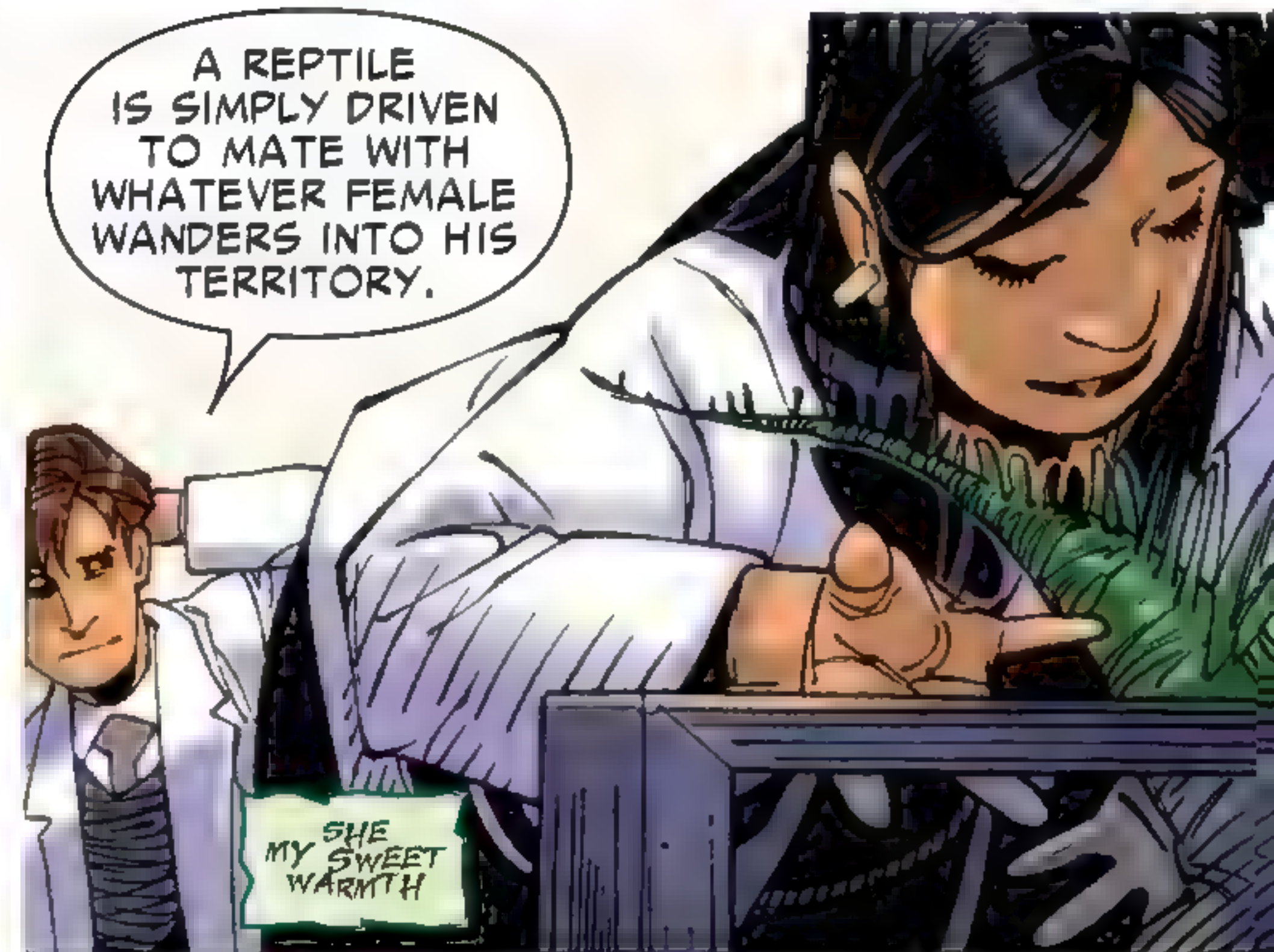
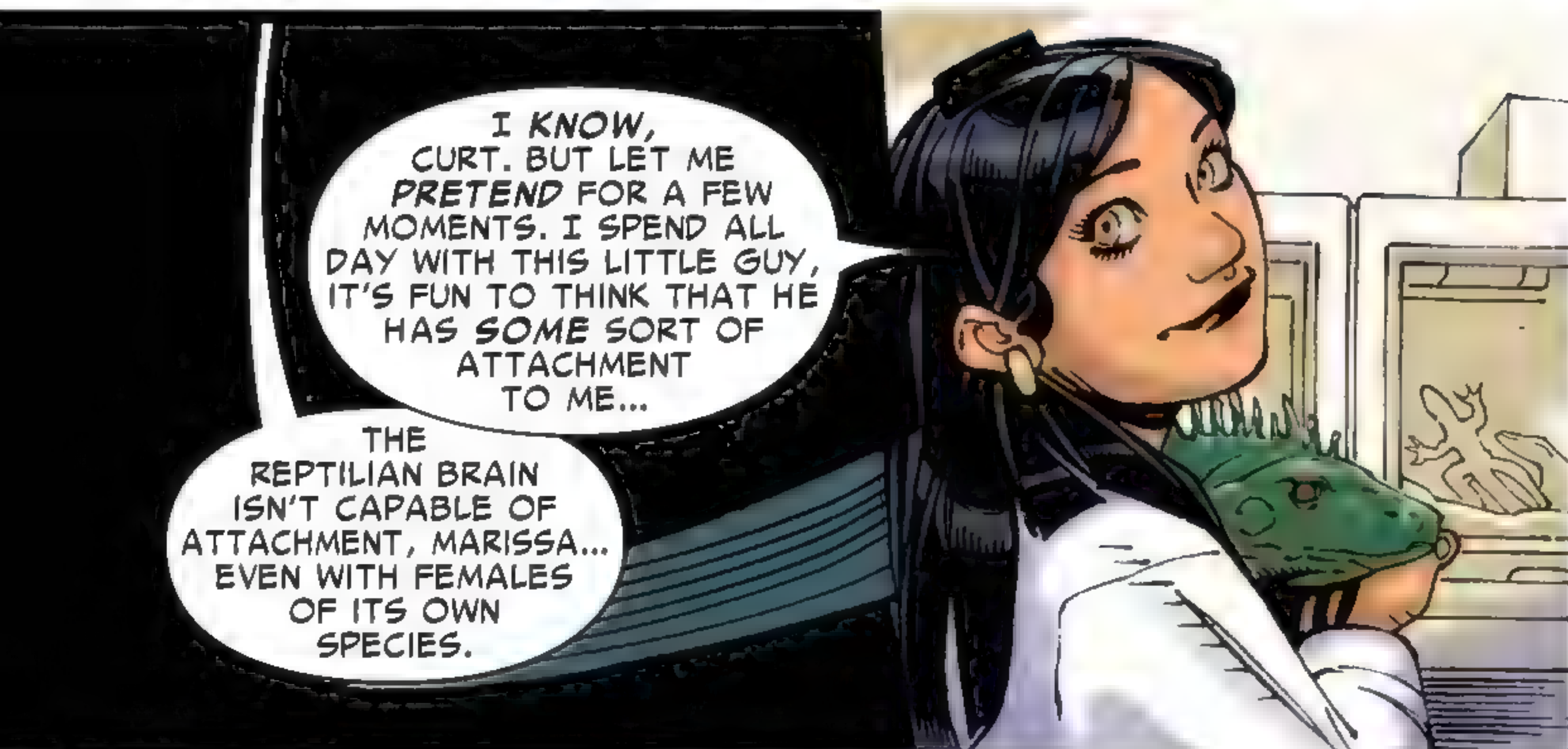
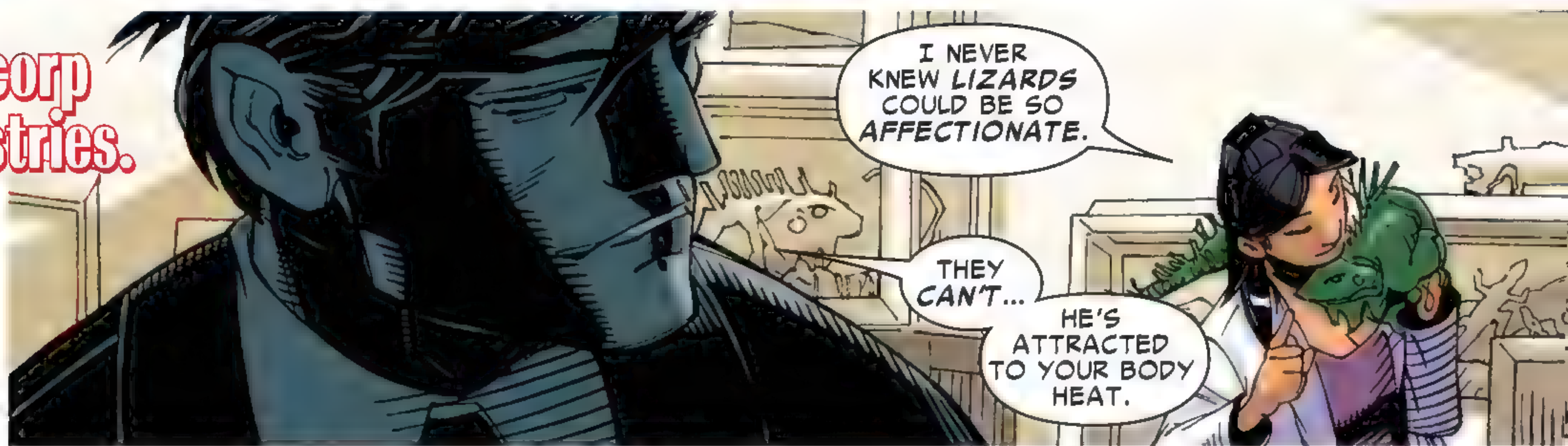
YOU MEAN WHAT ARE YOU DOING? ASKING CARLIE ON A "DATE."

GIVE ME THAT!

IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!



Phelecorp Industries.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

EXCUSE ME? I'M IN CHARGE OF THIS FACILITY, DR. CONNORS.

AND UNTIL YOUR RESEARCH CREATES A MARKETABLE PRODUCT, I'D ADVISE YOU TO KEEP THE OFFICE CHITCHAT TO A MINIMUM...

...AND WATCH YOUR TONE.

THIS IS THE LIZARD'S TERRITORY, KING...

GIVE KING RED NECK KAH NERS.

WHAT?

THE... LIZARDS. Y-YOU'RE AGITATING THEM.

RIGHT, WELL I WON'T BOTHER YOUR LIZARDS FOR LONG.

I JUST NEED TO STEAL YOUR ASSISTANT FOR A BIT.

OH? WHAT FOR?

JUST SOME PERSONAL MATTERS... IT WON'T TAKE A MOMENT.

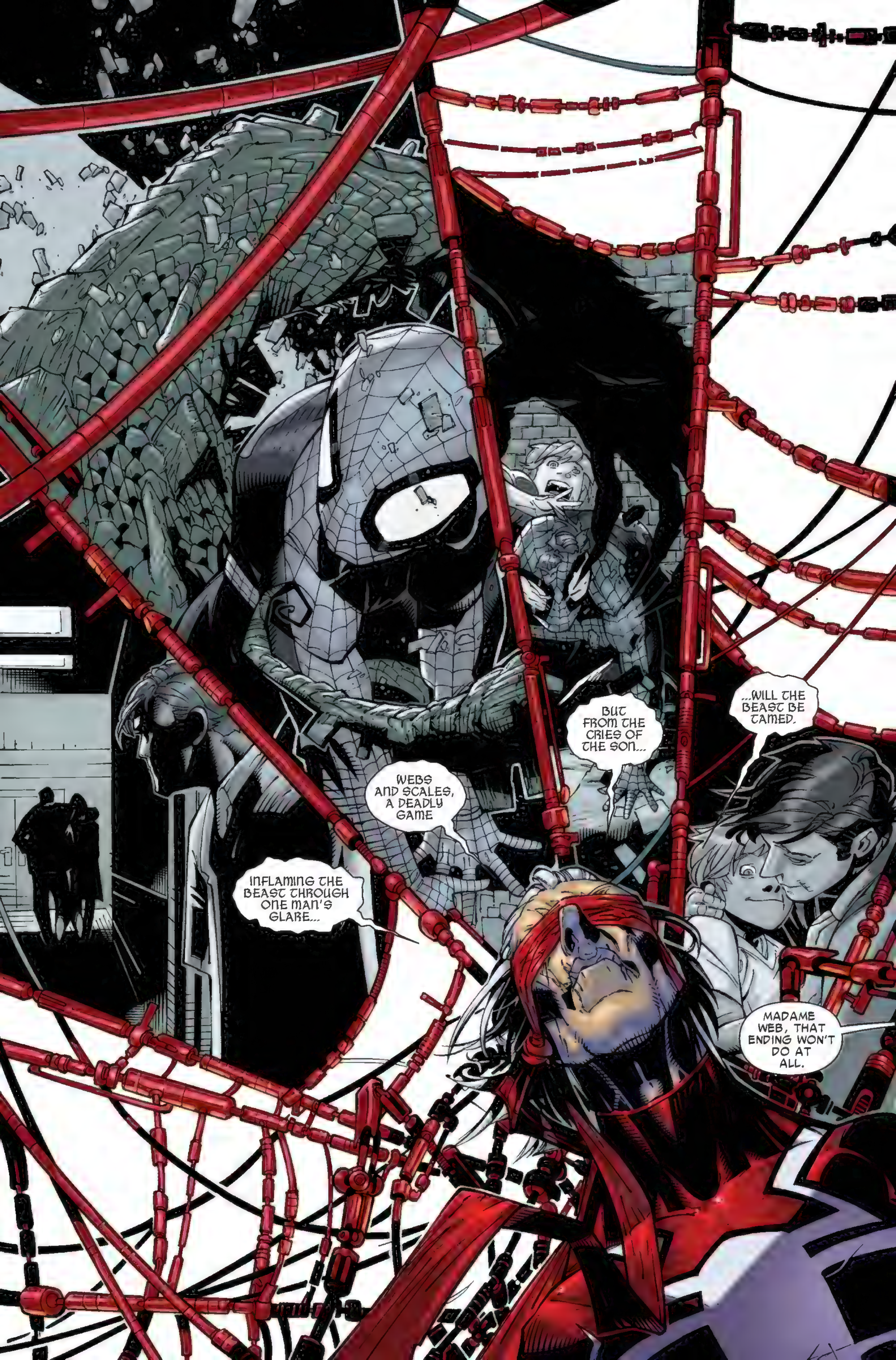
YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE, MR. KING.

I'M THE BOSS, CONNORS. I'LL BE WHEREVER I WANT.

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

WELL, MARISSA, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU HAD EVER BEEN TO THE OPERA...

"OH, DEAR... OH, DEAR... LOVE IS IN THE AIR..."



BUT
FROM THE
CRIES OF
THE SON...

...WILL THE
BEAST BE
TAMED.

WEBS
AND SCALES,
A DEADLY
GAME

INFLAMING THE
BEAST THROUGH
ONE MAN'S
GLARE...

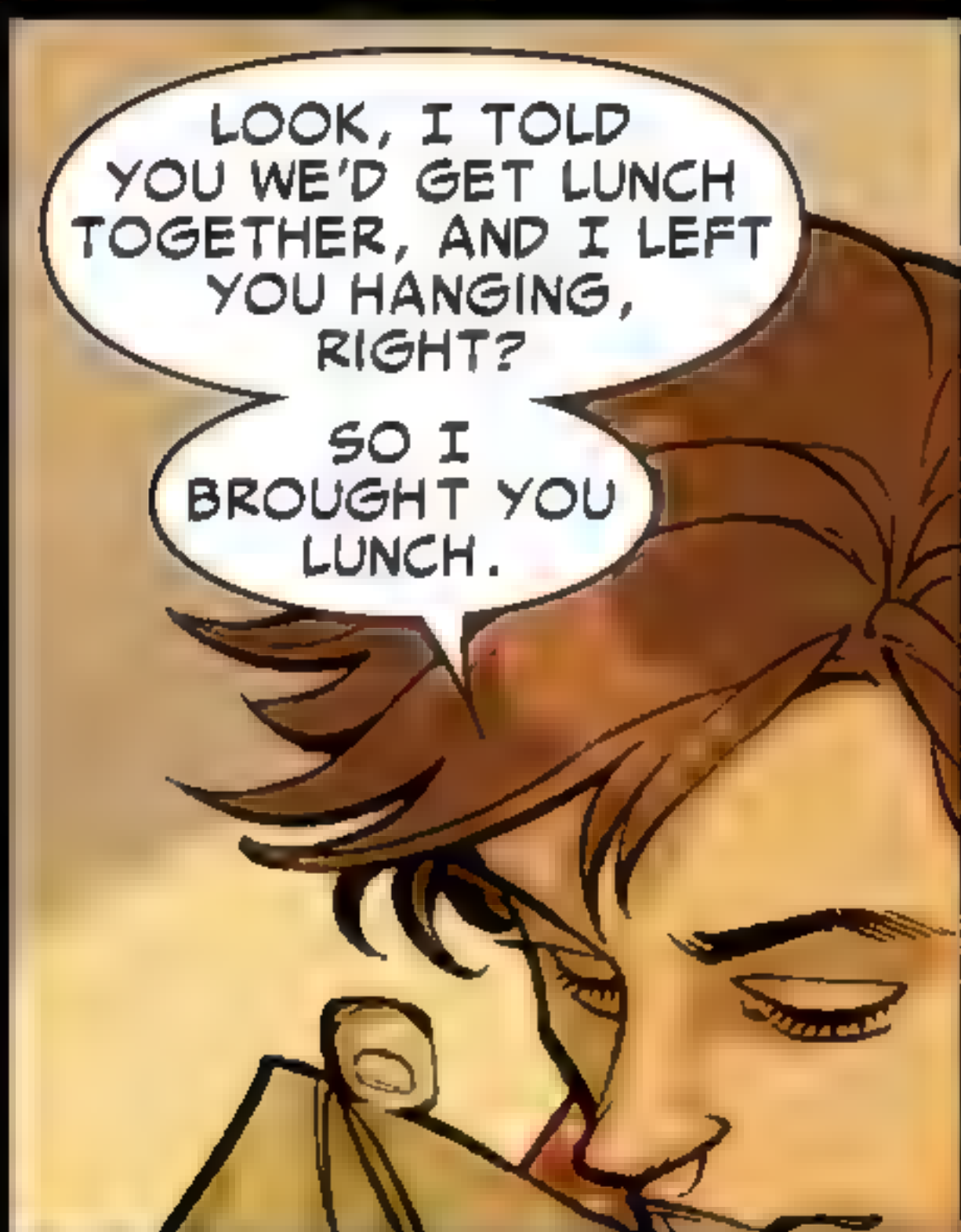
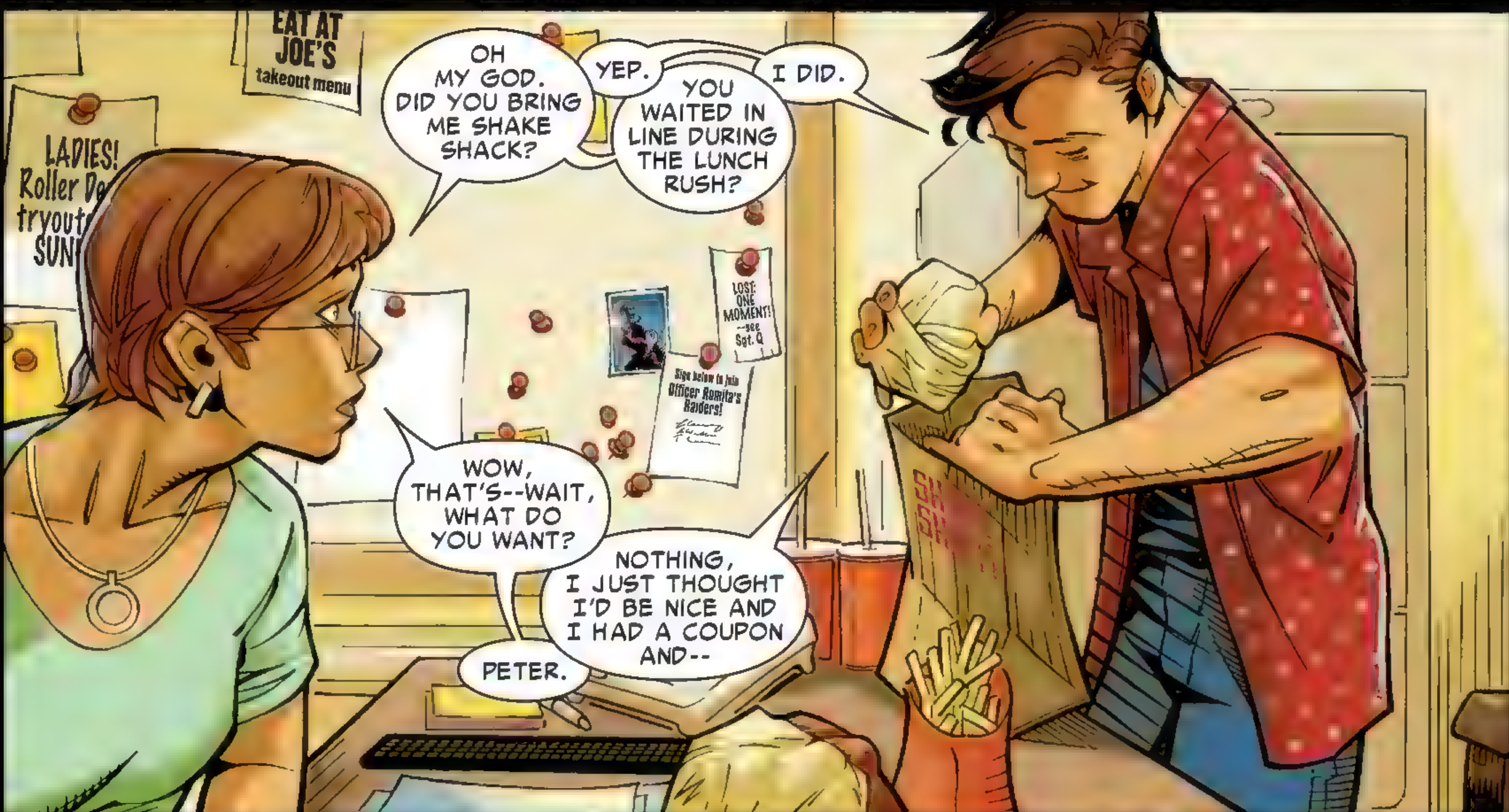
MADAME
WEB, THAT
ENDING WON'T
DO AT
ALL.

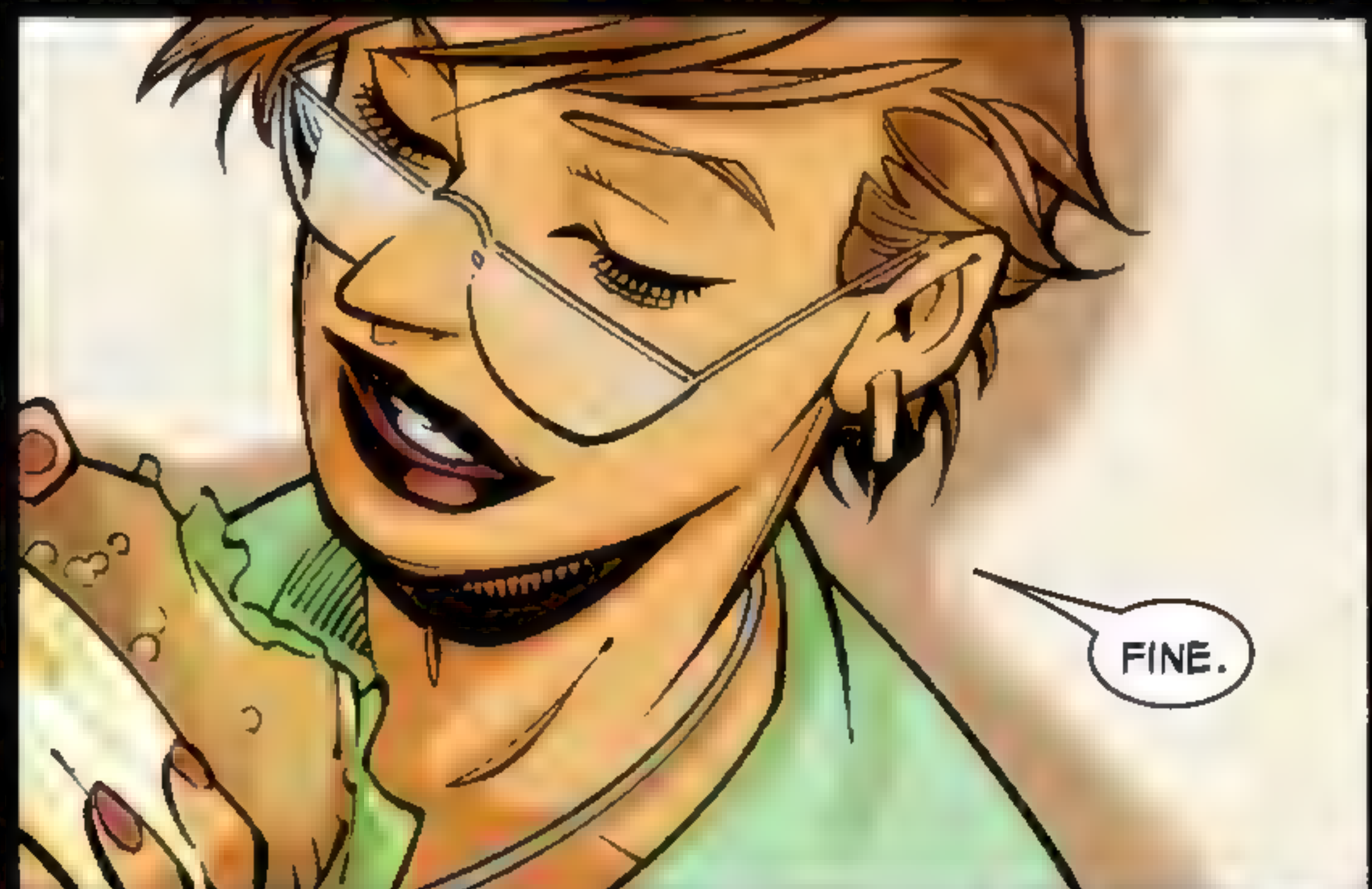
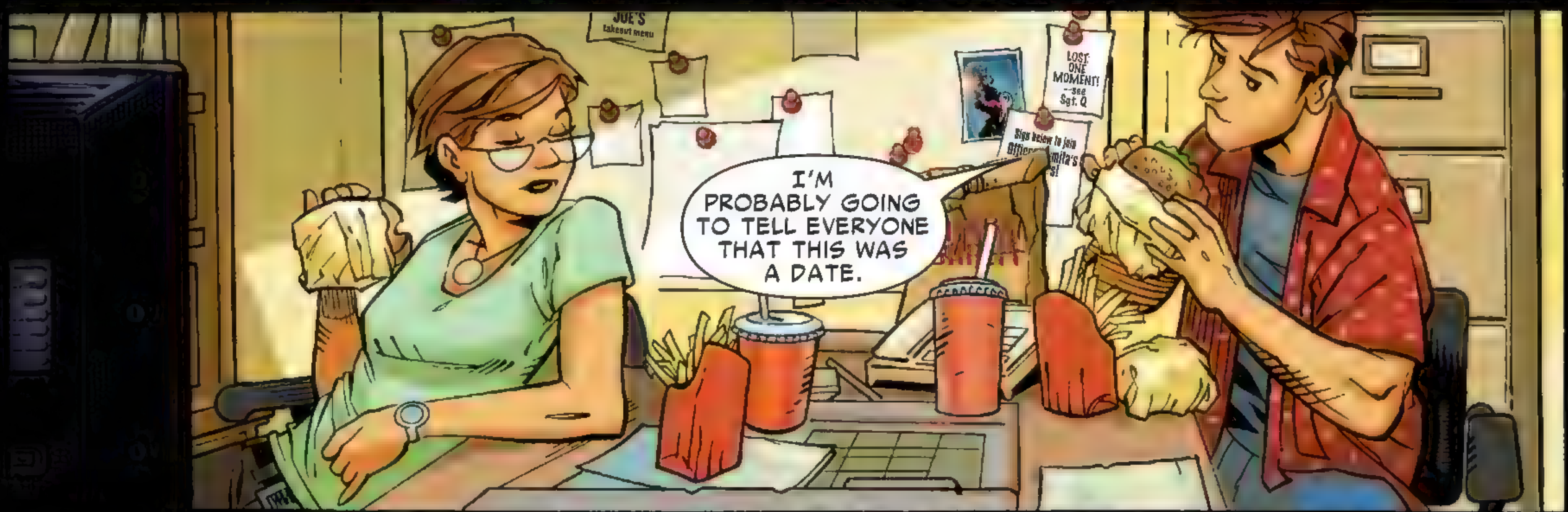
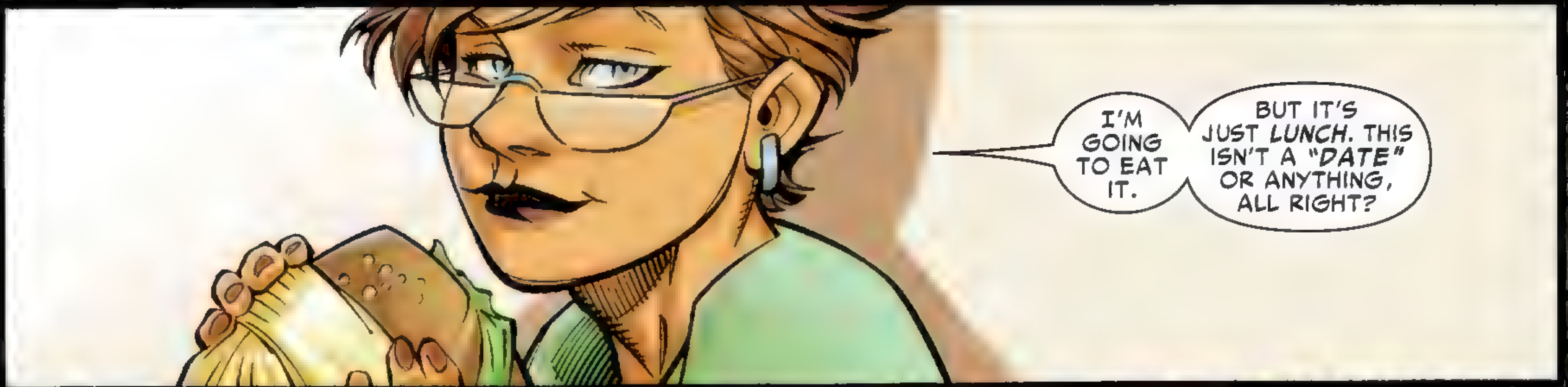


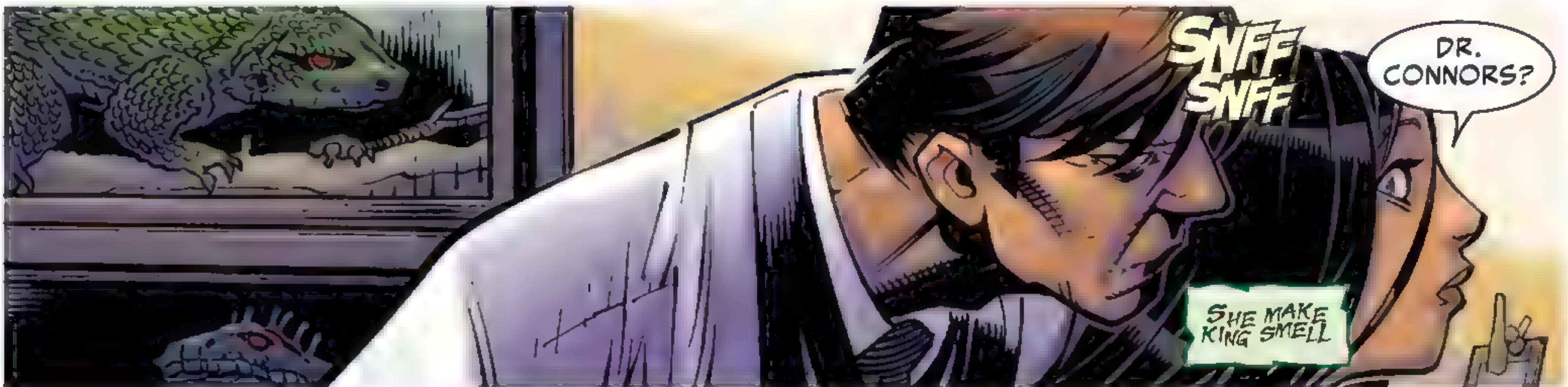
SHALL
WE NUDGE
THE PLAYERS
IN A DIFFERENT
DIRECTION,
ANA?

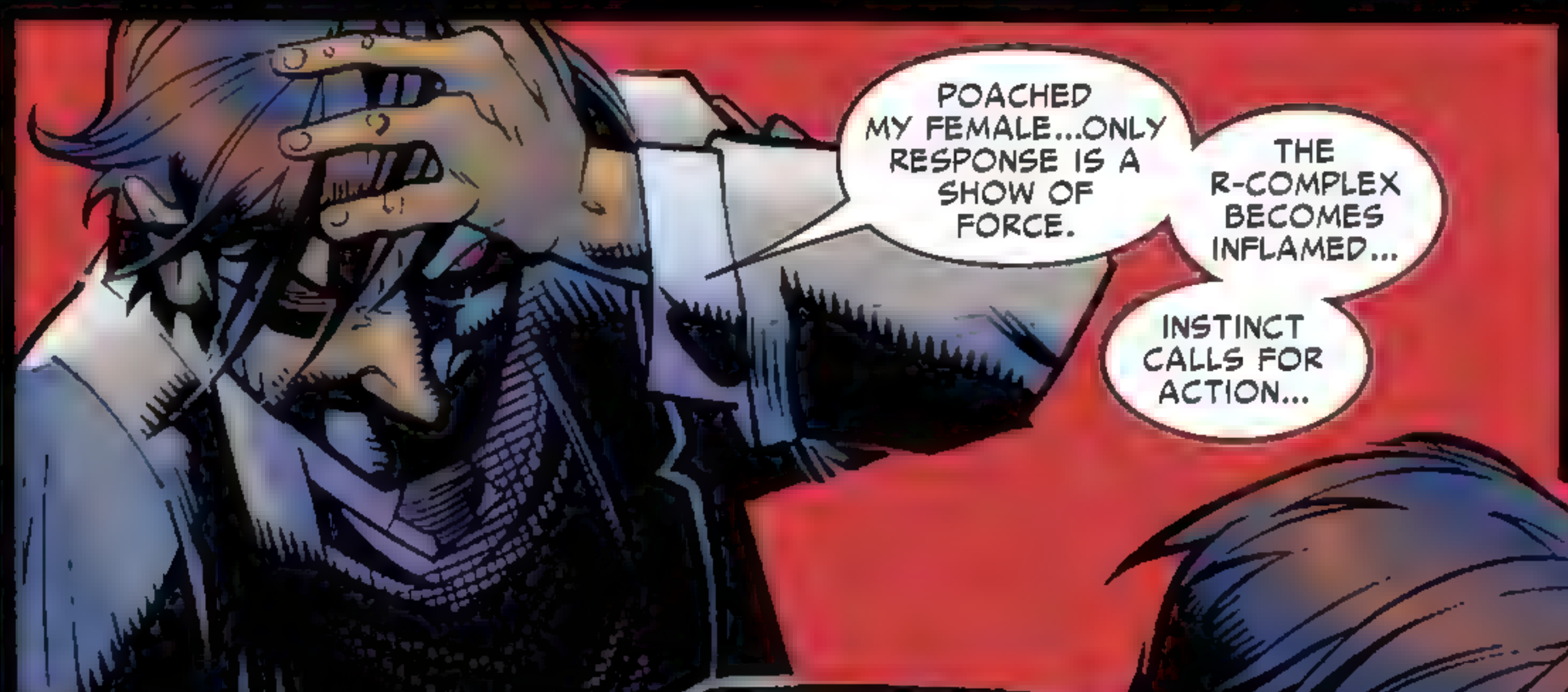
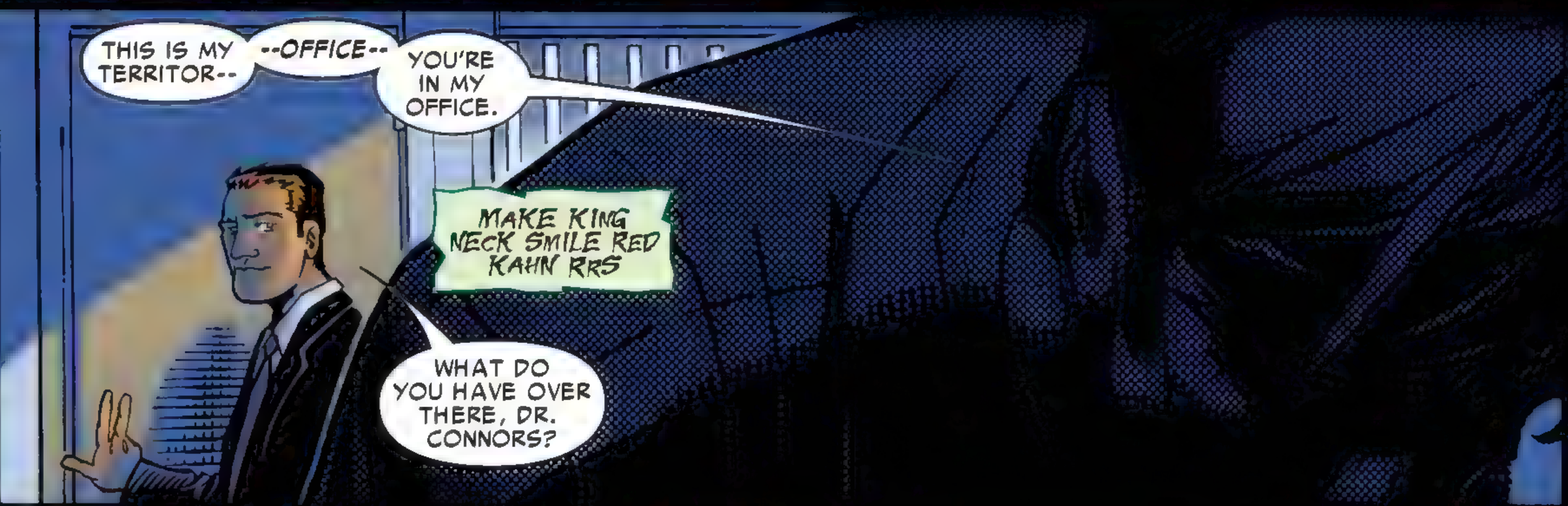
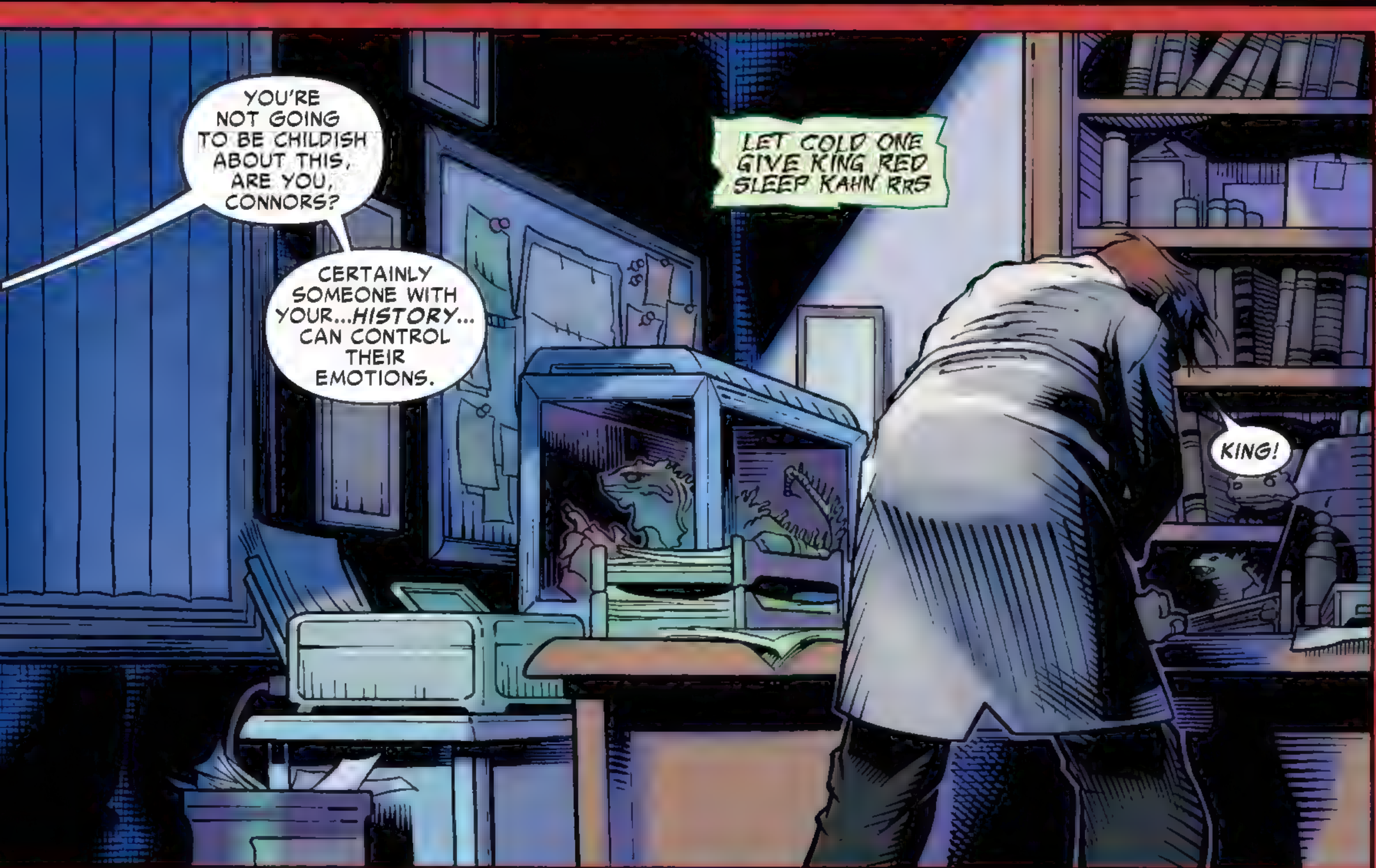
YES,
MOTHER.

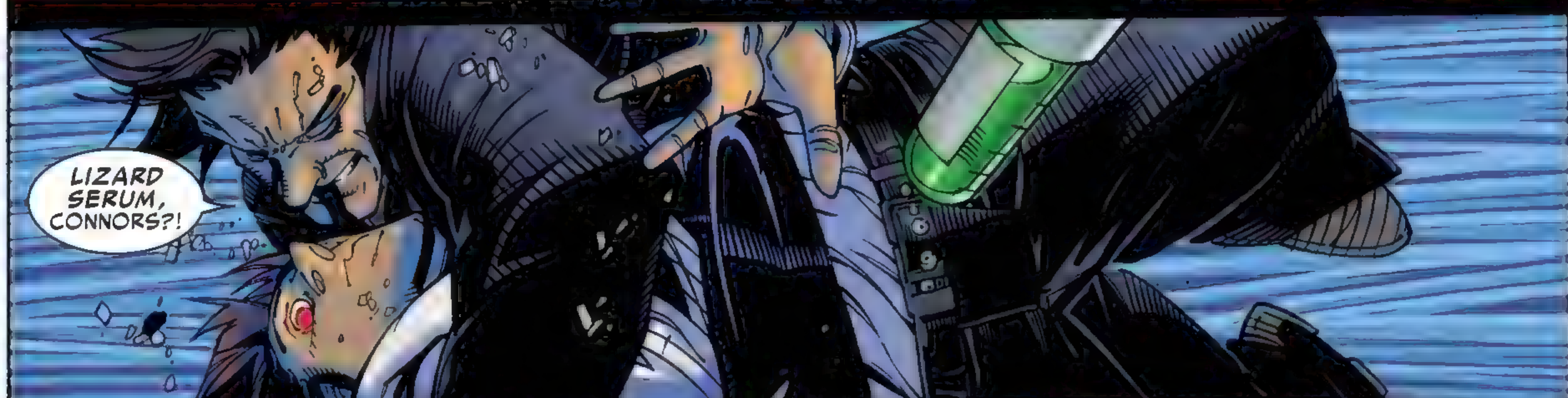
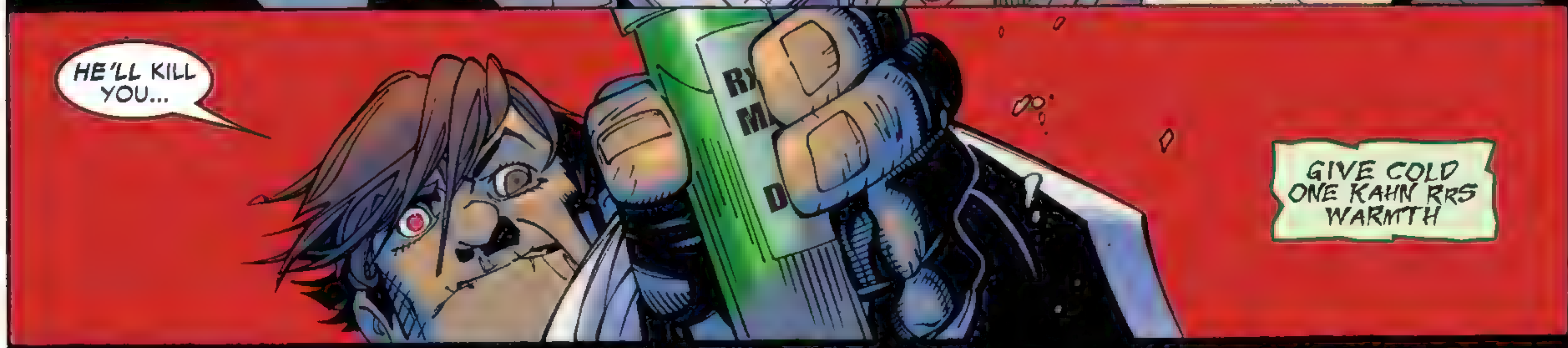
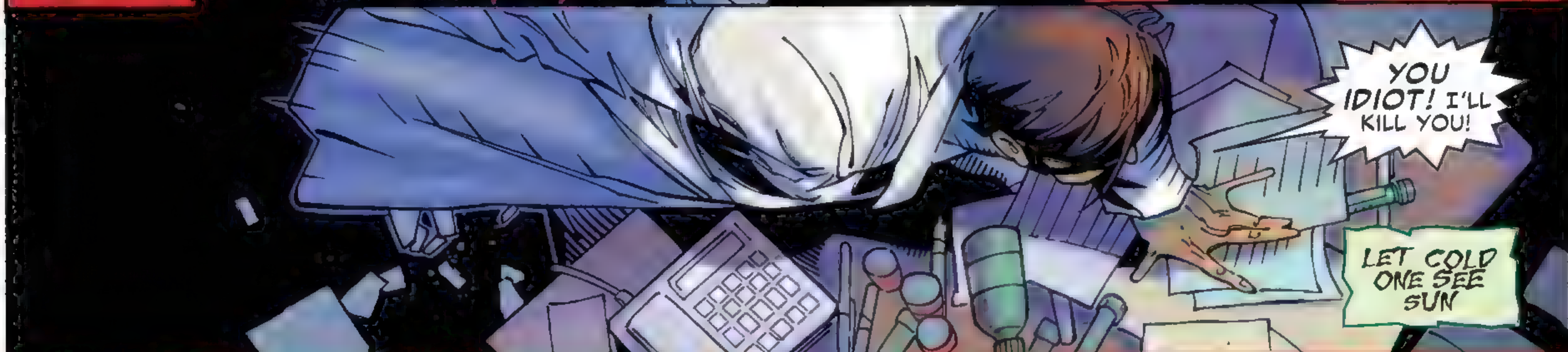
Fifth Precinct.

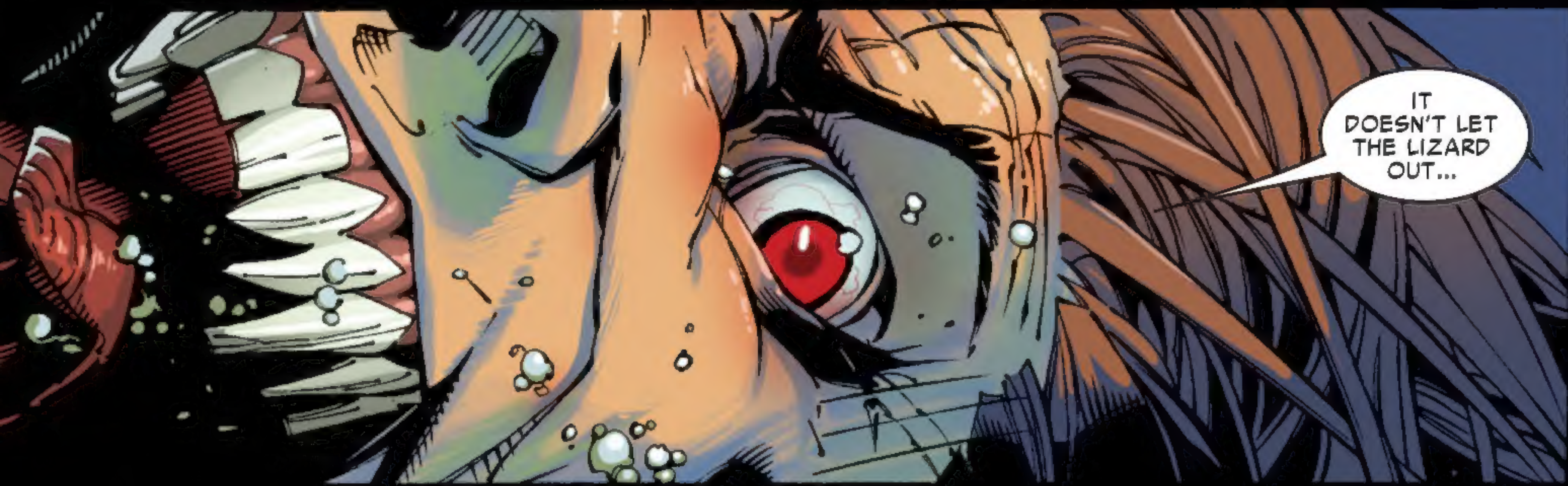












IT
DOESN'T LET
THE LIZARD
OUT...



IT
KEEPS
HIM
IN!



CONNORS...

NO!





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D

PART ONE

TO BE
CONTINUED...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR **STEPHEN WACKER** EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR **JOE QUESADA** EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER **ALAN FINE** EXEC. PRODUCER

You've just read part one of *Shed* and all of us involved can't wait to hear what you think about it. Take a sec to drop us either a letter or an e-mail to let us know your opinion. Whether it's good or bad, I PROMISE we can take it (Well, Zeb can't but he's a slight man made up of guilt, fear and distrust of human contact.)

Before we get to your letters, here are three quick facts for ya.

FACT #1-Did you know Marvel Assistant Editor Ralph Macchio reads this space every month hoping to find his name. Better luck next time, Ralph.

FACT #2: As I type this, Brennan is putting the finishing touches on the new SPECTACULAR SPIDER-GIRL #1 and a one-shot called THE MANY LOVES OF SPIDER-MAN. They should both be available right down the rack from here.

FACT #3-If you find any Marvel comic from 1980, you'll also find Ralph's name in there. He's been here a loooooong time.... though he's only put in about a week's worth of actual work.

Okay enough of that! Let's get to you, the good and decent Spider-Man readers. Ralph, you first (Sorry, Macchio, I meant a different Ralph):

Web-Heads,

I have been enjoying the side stories with Flash Thompson, but this past issue (#622) really hit home to me. I myself am paralyzed and know what Flash is going through.

After reading the five stages that he went through, it touched me and made me look back on the battles and stages that I have gone through over the past three years. I was able to feel what he was going through in his life. I have been through the denial, depression, anger and the acceptance of the situation.

I just wanted to thank the writers and artist of this side story for making such an inspirational comic and helping put a light on people who have handicaps and the things they go through.

Thank You,
Ralph Vigarino Jr
Youngstown, Ohio

And thanks to you for writing in, Ralph. Using Elizabeth Kubler-Ross' "Five Stages of Grief" as a structure for the Flash Thompson story came straight from the story's writer, Greg Weisman, and I couldn't be happier that it touched so many readers...particularly someone with such a connection to the specifics of the story. The challenge in all of our books is keeping one eye in the real world --and we certainly don't succeed every time out-- but when we can come close, it makes us feel like all this work ain't for nothin'.

Flash has become one of my favorite characters in the Spidey-verse. We have big plans for him over the next couple years and his story is going places I think you may like.

All that said, though, we still screw up from time to time as you'll read below...

Hey Guys,

I hate to be the guy to point out mistakes/discrepancies in anyone's work, but I just finished reading ASM #622 --specifically the "Stages of Grief" story featuring Flash.

As a former soldier, I noticed something

wrong right off the bat. Everyone keeps calling him "Corporal", but he clearly has a Sergeant's stripes on his Class A uniform.

I'm not sure if this is just a simple mistake or he has been promoted since he lost his legs (he certainly deserves it), but I thought I should say something for all the servicemen and women who may be reading.

Marvel has always done a...well, marvelous job representing America's fighting men and women both on the front lines of war and at home (JMS and Romita's 9-11 issue of Amazing Spider-Man among other things inspired me to join up).

Keep up the great work, guys!

D.A. Hamilton
Via e-mail

He's still a corporal, D.A. I just missed it. Thanks for the catch.



Dear Wacker,

I'd like to applaud the creative team of Weisman and Ross for their splendid story, "Stages of Grief". I'm "only" 55 years old, a long-timer reader, and genuinely empathetic with Flash and his struggles.

No, I've got my two legs -- but I've had (get this!) THREE back surgeries, FOUR (yes FOUR!) hip replacements, one knee surgery, a dislocated right hip and a broken left femur. With the help of God and my medical team I had a 27 1/2 yr career teaching special education -- Hurricane Katrina stole that, however.

Indeed, the stages are real. Rehab breaks one to his/her core. Fight? Flight? Work hard? Given in to pain and despair? At times one can almost 'touch' the denial, depression...God and a top-notch crew of health providers are the only hope, along with one's rugged individualism.

Thanks for depicting one man's struggle for the many.

Best to the entire Spider-Man family...
Charles DiVincenti, Jr.
Metairie LA

Wacker,

I get my issues fairly late, because I'm living in South Korea and teaching English at the moment. I have an arrangement with my comic book guy from the States to ship a box of comics every couple months. So I just finished Spider-Man #612 and read the letters page.

Job well done handling Mr. Roche's letter. While reading the issues he commented on, I had some of the same thoughts...especially when Peter was getting, what seemed to be, drunk. But, knowing Spidey, I was able to rationalize his actions, and knew the guilt he's more than likely to feel afterwards.

The amazing aspect of the Spidey books is the balance between Peter's relationships and kick-butt action. Not to stir up too many ghosts, but BND was missing this, and I'm glad the ratio has about evened out. I assume rational adults and rational teenagers read this book, as it is not geared towards children -- though I'm sure some are mature enough to understand the concepts -- so I figure the book is up to dealing with any topic the Marvel-verse can conceive, as long as it is done so professionally, which it usually is.

I mean no disrespect toward Mr. Roche. In fact, I'm glad this was brought up so everyone is clear about the evolution of The Amazing Spider-Man book. Thank you, again, for printing his

letter, and for your thoughtful and, as important, honest response. We might not always agree, but your honesty has my respect.

Wanted to let you know,

Matt Athanasiou
South Korea

Dear Spider-Men.

I really have to give some way overdue credit to Bob Gale and Patrick Olliffe for their work on the Spidey Digi-series @ Marvel.com. The credit is for creating a completely new perspective on Pete's adventures/mishaps while still working perfectly parallel to the thrice monthly print edition.

I like Gale's takes on Michelle & J.J.J too and I've been a longtime fan of Olliffe's art of Spidey back since UNTOLD TALES OF SPIDER-MAN. Everyone should check it out.

Oh, in response to Wacker's response to a Mr. Daniel's letter in #623: Spidey should definitely venture out from NYC more often. A little web slinging in Dublin maybe?

Ever the faithful Spider-fan,

Seán Ó Cinnéide.
Dublin, Ireland

First of all, I can't believe we finally get a letter writer from Ireland and his name is actually "Sean"! That's like getting a letter from a guy in Brooklyn named "Tony".

I'd love to see Spidey in Ireland if only to be able to write off a trip there, so I'll work on it.



See everyone back here in one week for part two of "Shed". Zeb, Chris and the rest of the crew will be joined by Marvel's new artist sensation Emma Rios for an issue that contains the single most frightening Lizard scene you've ever read. Seriously...you are going to hate us even more than usual in just 7 days. YAY!

Viva Taxes!
Simperin' Steve
4/15/10

Regular cover by Bachalo (with lettering by Chris Eliopoulos).

Villain variant by Joe Quinones.

NEXT!



THE LONG DARK

Send e-mail to
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